

Agreement Ends Suit: New Site Can Be Bought for Post Office

by James Giese

The Greenbelt City Council took a major step forward in its efforts to have a new post office built in Greenbelt East and for the city to purchase the Sunrise property at its December 16 regular meeting. Council retroactively confirmed a settlement agreement to litigation verbally agreed to by the council at an executive session held on December 9. The new post office and the Sunrise acquisition have been two major goals of the city council for some time. Both objectives were tied into a memorandum of understanding the city council reached with the Petersen Companies in February 2001. However, resolution of the agreement was delayed pending legal proceedings sought by the United States Postal Service (USPS) to clear the title for the property.

The USPS had decided on the vacant land on the east side of Hanover Parkway north of Ora Glen Drive as the best site for a postal facility. It reached agreement with the current owners, the Petersen Companies, to buy the land known as parcel 2 of the Commerce Center. However, an earlier owner had placed a covenant on the land restricting the use of the land to uses other than that of a post office. The previous owners would not agree to the release of these covenants and an effort to have the courts vacate the covenant was unsuccessful.

In the February 2001 agreement, the Peterson Companies agreed, in part, to convey the postal site to the city. The city would use its powers of eminent domain to then condemn the property to free it of the restrictive covenant, after which the city would convey the land to the USPS for the agreed upon purchase price which Peterson would receive. Subsequently the city did file condemnation and the suit wound its way through the Circuit Court until it was finally scheduled for trial. This apparently caused the parties to get together and negotiate a settlement.

Verbal Agreement

Neither the city nor other parties have released the full details of this settlement. However, in order to reach the settlement, the city agreed to release the Peterson Companies from the previously agreed-to obligation to reimburse the city \$100,000 for a \$110,460 traffic signal that the city installed at the intersection of Hanover Parkway and Ora Glen Drive. In the past, the city had contended that this light was necessitated by the development at Commerce Center and therefore an obligation of the development. Also, the city backed away from a written commitment it had been

seeking from USPS to keep open a retail postal operation at Roosevelt Center in old Greenbelt. Instead it accepted a verbal commitment from USPS to do everything it can to keep a retail operation at the center.

Another item of contention was the amount of buffer between the developed post office facility and the homes in Windsor Green (Glen Ora) subdivision. Originally proposed at 145 feet, USPS had recently submitted a site plan calling for a 112-foot buffer. City Manager Michael McLaughlin announced that the site plan will provide for a 140-foot buffer.

Sunrise

Of greatest importance to city councilmembers, the agreement continues to enable the city to purchase the 10-acre Sunrise property located at the end of Hanover Drive to the south of the Greenbelt Holiday Inn and adjacent to I-95 and the Capital Beltway. The city council had long objected to developer plans for this property, which had included luxury high-rise apartments at one time and office buildings at another. At the time a memorandum of understanding was reached in 2001, the city was to pay Petersen \$624,000 for the property. The city also agreed to state its intent to acquire the property through condemnation if

Petersen had not sold it to the city, a statement that enables the owners to claim certain tax benefits as relates to the land sale.

According to Greenbelt City Solicitor Robert Manzi, the Petersen Companies are pushing for settlement on the post office site. Once that is done, the city can pursue the acquisition of Sunrise. The city will need to seek approval for the expenditure of Open Space funds from the state in order for it to have the necessary money to pay for the property.

The actual action of the council at the meeting was to retroactively authorize the dismissal of the condemnation lawsuit for the post office site property. Manzi indicated that he had already filed such a motion and the suit had been dismissed on the basis of council action at its executive session. Councilmember Thomas White suggested that the motion should be changed from “retroactively authorize” to “confirm.” Manzi and the other councilmembers agreed to this and the motion was unanimously adopted.

Sheldon Goldberg of the Windsor Green Association noted that it had been five long years for this issue to be resolved. He thanked the council for its “stick-to-itivness.”

From 1937 Greenbelt Post Office Has Kept Expanding

by Elaine Skolnik

The original Greenbelt Post Office opened at the end of September 1937 in the shopping center (now called Roosevelt Center). Since there was no delivery of mail in those early days, children would rush down to the post office after school and stand in line to get their family’s mail. This custom continued until the summer of 1942 when the city’s population had increased and residents campaigned successfully for home delivery. Originally located where the Generous Joe’s Restaurant now is located, the post office later moved to the space now occupied by the New Deal Café.

With the volume of mail increasing, especially with NASA using the Greenbelt facility, postal officials sought a larger site. Throughout most of the 1970s uncertainty continued about the future of the post office, still located in an original building in the shopping center. One problem city officials faced was that as they reached consensus on a site, the requirements for the facility’s size would be increased by the Postal Service.

Several locations were considered, then deemed inadequate.

One of these was Candy Cane City, the children’s playground once located across the parking lot from the existing post office. There was also much interest in land owned by Greenbelt Homes Inc. (GHI) at the corner of Crescent and Parkway. At that time GHI members reluctantly voted to sell 1.35 acres of land at that corner, the site of garages. However, city officials and residents were anxious to keep the post office in the shopping center.

Current Space

Finally, in 1980 the Greenbelt Co-op offered the post office its current space in the basement of the supermarket building; in 1982 the facility was moved there. By 1986, the Greenbelt service area had grown so much that the postal service again was considering a move.

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What Goes On

Wednesday, December 25
City Offices closed

Marrow Drive Saturday Seeks Donor for PJ Siegel

by Dorothy Sucher

A very special Greenbelter, one who has given much to this community, is in deep trouble and needs the help of her neighbors and friends. PJ Siegel, 43, was born and grew up in Greenbelt, attended local schools, was the second woman to join and first to become president of the Greenbelt Lions Club, and served as a major in the army – to mention only a few of her many accomplishments. Obviously, she is a woman of great energy and drive.

In August, however, she received devastating news. After months of medical tests she was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia (AML), a crippling disease that attacks the immune system. AML, a blood cancer, retards the growth of blood cells in the immune system. These cells, which originate in the bone marrow, fail to mature and lead to tumors and bone marrow failure. As a result, Siegel is unable to fight infectious diseases and could die from the common cold.

Needs Donor

The only cure for AML is a bone marrow transplant but none of Siegel’s family members are a match, including her twin, Marc (there are two sets of twins in the Siegel family). However, Julia Eichhorst, president of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. has come forward to organize a bone marrow drive on Siegel’s behalf. It will take place

on Saturday, December 21 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. Anyone wishing to be tested must be between the ages of 18 and 60 and in good health. A few drops of blood and 20 minutes is all it takes. If a match is found, it could save her life. And perhaps a match could be found among those tested for one of the 3,000 others awaiting blood marrow donors.

Free testing for the drive has been made possible by the “Friends of Allison,” a nonprofit corporation, and the National Institutes of Health Marrow Donor Center.

One of the most heartrending aspects of Siegel’s situation has been the need to tell her 12-year-old daughter about her mother’s illness. Siegel is a single mother and her daughter Shaine has never known her father. “I’m her mom, dad, mentor and sole adult contact,” said Siegel to a reporter from the Gazette, quoted in a recent article. “The thought of not being here for her is horrible.” Shaine was Little Miss Greenbelt in 1999.

Siegel grew up mostly on Maplewood Court and now lives on Ridge Road. “We grew up going to Greenbelt Lake and we went to the pool every day,” she said. “I think Greenbelt is a

See BONE MARROW, page 2

Council Considers Upgrades In Cherrywood Lane Study

by Mary Moien

The City of Greenbelt has completed a study of the corridor that consists of Cherrywood Lane as it runs from Edmonston Road to Greenbelt Road. The purpose of the study was twofold. First, the study would define functional and esthetic improvements for this city-maintained major road. Secondly, it would provide guidance for future improvements in Greenbelt West that could impact Cherrywood Lane. At the November 25 City Council meeting city planner Celia Craze made a first presentation of the concept plans for the road.

Using a series of drawings Craze described changes to the road starting at the Edmonston Road end. One major change is a median that would continue down Cherrywood Lane, across the Beltway and into Springhill Lake. The median would be mounded and contain trees, shrubs and flowers. Even the bridge would have a landscaped median, although in response to a question, Craze indicated that the State Highway Administration actually has control of the bridge

structure. Several crosswalks would be designed along the road. Much of the road will have shade trees along both sides as well as in the median.

A significant change, and the only change currently funded, is the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Cherrywood Lane and Metro Access Drive – the road going to and from the Metro station. One issue of the roundabout is how the bike lanes that are currently on the road would be handled. Mayor Judith Davis brought up another issue when she reminded Craze that it had been suggested that an emergency phone be considered for that area of Cherrywood Lane. Craze indicated that there would be room for the phone when funds were found.

As Cherrywood Lane leaves Springhill Lake and moves by Beltway Plaza, the road narrows and it appears that there will be no room for a median. Craze stated that that area of the road “will need additional engineering” before the plan is finalized. Councilmember Alan Turnbull and

See CHERRYWOOD, page 3

Our Carriers Bring Holiday Greetings

Around this time of year it has been traditional for the youngsters who deliver the News Review to leave holiday greetings envelopes at the homes they serve. The News Review's financial position is such that we cannot pay our carriers very much. They are therefore dependent on generous holiday donations to supplement their nominal pay.

Most of the carriers range in age from pre-teen to the middle teens. For the younger boys and girls, delivering the News Review is their first job experience. Many of the older carriers started at a young age and continue to deliver the News Review as a service to their neighborhood. It is a learning process for all the youngsters and in some cases, the instillation of responsibility takes time and patience.

The holiday season affords us all a chance to show appreciation and to provide encouragement for the efforts of these youngsters and at the same time to show understanding for any failings that might have occurred during the year.

Again this year, the carriers will leave envelopes. We hope these envelopes, equipped with our carrier's names and addresses, will be helpful to our readers who wish to show appreciation. If your carrier's name or address is in doubt, mail your envelope to the News Review, 15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887 for forwarding. Please include your address so we can identify your carrier.



BONE MARROW

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fabulous place to grow up and raise kids."

Siegel says you just don't get the same sense of community in other places. "I've lived places in the military in a four-plex where I didn't know two of my neighbors, but I can tell you who everybody in my GHI court is."

She graduated with honors from high school a year early, then earned a bachelor of science degree from Frostburg State University and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Maryland. She was in the military for 16 years, and noted that "I used to come home on leave just so I could get a sub at Generous Joe's."

In addition to serving as president of the Lions Club, she chaired the then-Greenbelt Crime Prevention Committee and has been a member of a number of Greenbelt cooperatives: the Nursery School and Kindergarten Co-op, Friends of the Greenbelt Museum and the New Deal Café. She used to go there almost every Sunday for brunch, but now is rarely able to leave her home because of the fear of contracting an infection.

PJ Siegel needs Greenbelt's help and she is hoping that many members of the community will turn out for the bone marrow drive on December 21. For information about the drive call Julia Eichorst, 301-345-5508. For more information on PJ see www.newweb.net/~pj. For those who have questions about the marrow donation process there is a website of the National Marrow Donor Program at www.marrow.org.

(This article was based in part on an article in the Gazette Community News by Maniko Barthelemy, December 12, 2002.)

The Old Curmudgeon



"I think I'll skip Trent Lott's house this year..."

Letters to the Editor

Open Letter

To Public Works Dept.

I am writing again on behalf of the Board of Directors for the Charlestowne Village Condominium. We appreciate the installation of a "stop ahead" picture sign in response to our requests of April 8, 2002 and follow-up of September 12, 2002. Unfortunately, the residents of the community are still extremely concerned about the intersection of Lakecrest Drive and Lakeside Drive.

This intersection is a bus stop for school children as well as adults in and around our community. We are sure that a study of this intersection would reveal that the majority of the people coming to this intersection on Lakecrest Drive fail to stop at this sign. We are very concerned for the safety of our residents, young and old.

While the new sign may help, we feel more needs to be done. We would appreciate your consideration of a crosswalk at this intersection as well as "stop ahead" pavement markings. In addition, increased police presence issuing tickets may also help address the problem.

*Michelle McGlothlin,
CMCA, AMS
Community Manager, CVI,
Agent for Charlestown
Village Condominium, Inc.*

No Need to Rush

I was at the public forum regarding the skateboard park. I am convinced there is real support for this concept. The primary sticking point is the location of the park. I believe that more creativity should have been used and can still be used in finding a location inoffensive to homeowners on Lakeside Drive and to tennis players, while still meeting the needs of skateboarders.

I strongly agree with Mr. Turnbull's idea of using existing parking areas near the center as a site. Other possibilities should include Greenbelt East and the Northway fields.

Much as when the lights were built for Braden field, more money can be accumulated over time for this project. We need

not rush headlong into a poor decision. We need to find a place we can all agree on.

David Granite, M.D.

Thanks

The Friends of the Greenbelt Library (FOGL) wants to publicly thank Bob Davis, manager of the Co-op Supermarket, for consistent support of its fundraising activities since its refounding in 1984. From donations and discounts on food for the 50th and 60th anniversaries of Greenbelt Library to the current donations of paper grocery bags for the recycling program of the Novel Endings bookstore at the library (managed by FOGL), the Co-op has been our staunchest supporter. All monies raised go to enrich library programs.

*Eileen Peterson,
President, FOGL*

**Greenbelt Post Office
Extended Hours
Saturday, December 21
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**OLD GREENBELT
THEATRE
Week of December 20
Yana's Friends (NR)
Italian for Beginners (R)
Cat's Meow (PG13)**

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Yana's Friends - 7:30
Italian for Beginners - 9:30
Saturday
Cat's Meow - 9:30
Yana's Friends - *3:00, 7:30
Italian for Beginners - *5:00
Sunday
Cat's Meow - 7:30
Yana's Friends - *5:00
Italian for Beginners - *3:00
Monday
Italian for Beginners - *5:30
Yana's Friends - 7:30
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Yana's Friends - *5:30
Wednesday
Evelyn - 7:30, 9:30
Thursday
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*These shows at \$4.00
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www.pgtheatres.com

REMINDER –
from the
Greenbelt News Review

**SPECIAL HOLIDAY
DEADLINES**

All special services,
announcements or ads
to be published for

NEW YEAR'S

Need to be submitted
the week before
the Wednesday holiday –

**New Year's by
SUNDAY,
December 22
Deadline: 10 p.m.,
earlier if possible**

**Events between
January 3 and 10
(January 2 issue) by
SUNDAY, December 29
Deadline: 10 p.m.,
earlier if possible**

Voice: 301-474-4131
Fax: 301-474-5880
Electronic mail:
newsreview@greenbelt.com

Our Holiday Deadlines

Christmas week – all ads and copy for the December 26 issue must be in the News Review office no later than 10 p.m. on Sunday, December 22, earlier if possible. Special holiday hours will be Sunday from 2 to 5 and 8 to 10 p.m. Proofreaders and make-up staff will work on Monday night so they can spend Christmas Eve and Christmas Day with their families. The paper will be printed on Thursday, December 26.

New Year's week – The same schedule will hold for the January 2 issue. One more point – stories or ads featuring activities on Fridays and Saturdays should be published a week ahead so that people will have time to plan to attend.

The News Review Thanksgiving week schedule was an unhappy surprise to a number of organizations needing ads, notices and news articles that came to us too late to get into the paper. The affected groups and advertisers lost the exposure they needed that week. Most know we try to accommodate everyone's needs as much as possible, so plan ahead.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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newsreview@greenbelt.com
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CIRCULATION (Core of Greenbelt): Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James Giese, president; Eileen Farnham, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Mary Moien, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Barbara Hopkins, and Judy Bell.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Community Events

Methodist Church Special Services

Mowatt Methodist Church will hold its Christmas Eve Candle Light Service and Watch Night Service of Covenant Renewal on New Year's Eve. Everyone is invited. These two services would be modified traditional services in the Wesleyan heritage. In conjunction with the special emphasis of "Home for Christmas" this year, the church offers information about Christianity and Christian life through the guide book, "Means of Grace." A candle will be given to each person on Christmas Eve at the candle light service. "We recognize that God made all creation and saw that it was good. As a diverse people of God who bring special gifts and evidences of God's grace to the unity of the Church and to society, we are called to be faithful to the example of Jesus' ministry to all persons." (Book of Discipline 200, 93.) Call 301-474-9410 for further information.

At the Library

Sunday, December 22 – Libraries closed
Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24 and 25 – Libraries closed

Volunteers Needed

The Greenbelt New Year's Eve Committee is in need of volunteers to help with this year's celebration at the Community Center. Volunteers work for one or two hours. The rest of the evening is free to enjoy the food, music and festivities. Volunteers direct traffic, supervise activities and generally ensure everyone is having a good time. All volunteers receive free admission and a free "Event Staff" T-shirt. For more information call volunteer coordinators Dan Hamlin (301-982-0048) or Jim Marley (301-552-1288) or chair Patti Brothers (301-982-2312)

Greenbelt CARES

The week of December 9, Carol Leventhal met with Ukay Ekekwe, monitor, Prince George's County Health Department's Division of Addictions, Alcohol and Drug Abuse. The division is funding the CARES parenting class that is being held at Springhill Lake Elementary School on Wednesday evenings. Ekekwe plans to visit one of the Wednesday night sessions.

Judye Hering began publicizing the winter session of CARES' free GED course. Registration will be held in the Municipal Building in the Council Room on Tuesday, January 7 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald
There was a very small attendance at the December 11 meeting. The bad weather kept some people home and a large group was on the trip to Williamsburg, Va.
The men were the winners of the Bingo games. Ernie Varda, Don Davis and Harold Miller were the "Lucky Three."
The next meeting will be the business meeting on January 8 and installation of officers for 2003.
We wish everyone a happy and peaceful holiday season.

Park Film Explains Winter Solstice

A solstice program featuring a video on the Native American stone clock in Chaco Canyon, N. Mex. will be presented at the Ranger Station classroom at Greenbelt Park on Sunday, December 22 at 1 p.m. The astronomical reasons for the shortest day of the year will be explained by the ranger. Call 301-344-3944 for information.

Discover the Fun Of Reading

Join a park ranger at Greenbelt Park and discover the fun of reading. This program is intended for ages 6 to 10. Meet at the Ranger Station near the campground at 2 p.m. on Friday, December 27 and Saturday, December 28.
For information or directions call the park at 301-344-3944 or see the web site at <http://www.nps.gov/gree/>.

Folk Dance Class Burns Calories

Okay, so the holiday parties are over. That is no reason to stop having fun and burn a few calories at the same time.
Roland Forbes' International Folk Dance class invites all aspiring dancers to attend an open house get acquainted dance. Shuffle over to the Youth Center around 7:30 p.m. on Friday, January 10. It is free, no partner required, no experience necessary. If you have a good time, sign up for the eight week winter session that begins on January 17 at 8 p.m. A modest fee is charged for the series.

Art at Wildlife Visitor Center

Artist Kurt Plinke will be featured through December at Hollingworth Art Gallery at the National Wildlife Visitor Center. Plinke enjoys creating watercolor, gouache and egg tempera paintings of nature's "micro-environments." Following in the tradition of previous naturalist-illustrators such as Audubon, Darwin and Wilson, he spends time in the field gathering information on the minute details of nature in journals that are a "combination sketchbook and diary" as references for future work.
Visit the National Wildlife Visitor Center on Powder Mill Rd. between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197. The visitor center is open daily from 10 to 5:30 p.m. For additional information, call 301-497-5760.

Greenbelt CARES

On Monday, December 2 the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) hosted its annual meeting for area principals. ACE members were pleased to have representation from Greenbelt Elementary, Springhill Lake Elementary, Magnolia Elementary, St. Hugh's School, Greenbelt Middle School and Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Topics included a review of ACE activities, events, school activities and needs with which ACE could assist. The discussion was lively and productive.
Judye Hering attended a meeting of the Prince George's Volunteer Coordinator's Association. The topic for discussion was the use of volunteers during the holiday season, as well as how best to honor them.

CHERRYWOOD continued from page 1

Davis discussed the possibility of "shaving" a little space off of the parking lot at Beltway Plaza to provide more road room. However, it is felt, based on previous discussions with Beltway Plaza management, that they would not be amenable to this change.

Turnbull was concerned about the effect on bicyclists and wanted them to review the plan and provide input. He also brought up the idea of additional roundabouts. One had been thought of for the intersection of Breezewood Drive, but it appeared that the right of way easement would not be sufficient. Another possibility that Craze thought would be of interest, was the intersection with Ivy Lane. It appears that the roundabouts will be discussed more in the future.

It was suggested that the plans be shared with the management of Capital Office Park. With the caveat from the Mayor that this plan is just a vision at this point and that, with the exception of the roundabout at Metro Access Drive, it is several years down the road, the board approved sending the plan on to the Advisory Planning Board for their input.

Mission of Love Aided by Redskins

The Washington Redskins presented a check for \$25,000 to the Mission of Love at an on-field check presentation prior to the kick-off of the Redskins-Rams game on Sunday, November 24 at FedEx Field.
The funds will be used to further the community outreach efforts of the Mission of Love in Prince George's County. The Mission of Love provides services to some residents of Springhill Lake. A recent coat drive at Greenbriar benefited the mission.
In addition to the \$25,000 donation, the Washington Redskins will also donate a van to the Mission to help them transport area residents to and from the Mission's warehouse in Capital Heights.

Student Member Will Vote Again

At its December 12 board meeting the Prince George's County Board of Education passed a resolution to support restored voting rights for the student board member. Several student leaders, including former Student Board Member Bernard Holloway, a graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, participated in the board meeting to voice their support of the initiative.
Voting rights for the student board member were inadvertently removed by House Bill 949 earlier this year. Two new bills, Prince George's Bill 402 and 404, are currently being submitted for approval during the 2003 legislative session which will restore student board member voting rights. These rights will include voting on all matters except those relating to capital and operating budgets; school closings, re-openings and boundaries; collective bargaining decisions; student disciplinary matters; teacher and administrator disciplinary matters, as provided under Section 6-202(A) of the Education Article; and other personnel matters.
For additional information, contact Cheryl Landis at 301-952-6117.

POST OFFICE continued from page 1

For many years the property favored by both the postal service and the city, one almost certain to become the new home for the Greenbelt Post Office (see separate article), was a five-acre site known as Lot 2, located at the corner of Hanover Parkway and Ora Glen Drive. Federal funds for this project, however, had been shifted from fiscal year 1999 to fiscal year 2000, causing the postponement of construction of the new facility.

The delay resulted from an unresolved question concerning a unilateral covenant placed on the property in 1991 by former Lot 2 landowner Green Ora Limited Partnership, which would permit only office development on the site. The owners claimed that the unilateral covenant on Lot 2 runs with the land and thus precludes the building of a post office. They contended that a post office facility on Lot 2 between Commerce Center 1 office building on Lot 1 at the corner of Hanover Parkway and Greenbelt Road and Commerce Center 2's two low-rise office buildings would lower the value of the surrounding office building properties.

The city argued that the unilateral covenant signed only by the developer should be set aside since it violated earlier covenants and amendments signed by the city and the then-developer. The issue ended in a court suit in 1999. Circuit Court Judge William B. Spellbring Jr. ruled: "The 1991 covenant is a valid stand-alone covenant because it restricts use of Lot 2 instead of

expanding it." The plaintiffs – BJB Associates LC (a subsidiary of the Peterson companies), present owners of Lot 2, the City of Greenbelt and the United States Postal Service – had challenged Green Ora's right to impose a unilateral covenant to run with the land that did not also include the city's signature.
(The Peterson Companies obtained the proposed post office land in an FDIC auction after Green Ora lost the property when Madison National Bank, their lender, was taken over in 1994 by the FDIC.)

Condemnation
The city, BJB Associates and the United States Postal Services did not appeal Judge Spellbring's ruling. Instead, the city opted to institute condemnation proceedings. On September 25, 2000 city council introduced a resolution to authorize condemnation of the proposed post office site.
On Wednesday October 11, 2000, council conducted a public hearing. However, it was not until the council reached an understanding with the Peterson Companies and the U.S. Postal Services on February 12, 2001 that council moved to condemn the land. Filed in the Circuit Court in May 2001, the suit's trial dates were postponed several times. During this period, negotiations between the defendants, BJB and Citicorp Real Estate, Inc., were proceeding. On December 16, city council, satisfied that a settlement had been reached, officially withdrew the condemnation suit.

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Obituaries

Helen Pettit Starnes

Helen Pettit Starnes died on Saturday, December 7, 2002 at Doctor's Community Hospital. She was born on November 22, 1921 in Fort Lawn, So. Car., one of 11 children of George and Ola Pettit.

Mrs. Starnes served in the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1944. She was stationed in Florida where she met and married Walter Starnes. They moved to 58-E Crescent Road in 1953. A member of the American Legion and the Golden Age Club, Mrs. Starnes was also a charter member of Greenbelt Baptist Church where she served faithfully in many capacities through the years.

She was employed at the Maryland State Employment office and the Prince George's Department of Social Services.

Mrs. Starnes' husband Walter, son Edis, nephew William Pettit and grandson Donovan predeceased her. She is survived by her daughter, Sheila Nester of Greenbelt; a grandson, Dwayne Nester of Delaware; granddaughter Dawn Hughes and husband Skip and two great granddaughters, Heather and Corrinne Hughes, all of Greenbelt. Also surviving are brothers, sisters and many nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Service was held on Saturday, December 14 at the Greenbelt Baptist Church. Contributions in her honor may be given to the Helen Starnes Memorial Fund, Greenbelt Baptist Church, 101 Greenhill Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Julius E. Likowski

Julius Edward Likowski, 82, of 6 Court Hillside Road died peacefully at home of cancer on December 10, 2002.

Born in Plains Township, Pennsylvania, he was educated in the township schools, graduating in 1938 from Plains Memorial High School.

During World War II he served for over three years in the United States Air Force.

After the war he enrolled in Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre, Penna., graduating with a B.A. degree. He did work in several graduate schools.

Mr. Likowski worked for the U.S. Postal Service, retiring in 1992. He was active in the American Postal Workers union. He was elected to serve in various positions in his local and was a shop steward for over 30 years. He particularly enjoyed grievance work and was good at it. He was elected president of the union for one term.

In Greenbelt, where he resided for 36 years, he was an active member of the Greenbelt Garden Club. He tried different ways to grow his vegetables, always caging his tomato plants to prevent loss from nearby wildlife. Except for the drought years, he grew tomatoes and peppers in large quantities and delighted in sharing some with friends and neighbors. When his daughter was garden field captain he did the hard work that the job required: cutting brush back from the edge of the field, clearing debris and left over garden equipment from the field so it could be plowed in the spring and measuring out the plats after the field was plowed.

An avid fisherman, he also liked playing golf. A quiet man, he enjoyed living in Greenbelt.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara and daughter, Elizabeth of Greenbelt; son Alexander and his wife Cynthia of Annapolis; one brother, two sisters, a sister-in-law, nieces, nephews and friends. A brother and sister preceded him in death.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on December 16, 2002 in S.S. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Plains. Burial was in the parish cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to Hospice of the Chesapeake, Inc., 8424 Veterans Highway, Millersville, MD 21108.



SHARE Locates Host Site Here

by Mary Moien

SHARE (Self Help and Resource Exchange) is a local non-profit organization that now has a host site in Greenbelt. SHARE is a food network that provides a monthly package of food items to participants. The Greenbelt Baptist Church is the local SHARE site.

The organization operates through more than 450 local host sites of which 100 are in Prince George's County. Volunteers at each site take orders and serve as the pick-up point for the food. Each month a general menu of food items is provided; there is no choice of food, but SHARE emphasizes nutritious foods. The program states that a person can obtain about \$35 worth of food for \$15 plus two hours of volunteer service within the community. Food stamp cards are also accepted.

SHARE is a local non-profit Catholic lay organization. Although it receives funding from Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington and the Knights of Malta, it is open to participation by all. Chris Byrd, SHARE community developer for Prince George's county, indicated that this is the largest food distribution network in the Washington area. He stated that the organization has three primary goals, the first of which is to provide affordable nutritious food to people. The organization also promotes the goals of effective community partnerships and local community volunteerism.

Although SHARE could be of special benefit to those on a limited income, Byrd emphasized that the network is open to all. The money collected is pooled to buy foods in bulk quantities and then distributed. Participants of all income levels are encouraged, as increasing participation keeps the program growing. Byrd indicated

that November was the biggest month in their history, with 34,000 bags of food distributed, approximately 650,000 pounds of food. As some of the foods are perishable, buyers must have access to refrigeration and a stove for cooking. SHARE helps the homeless through other programs, Byrd added.

For January, orders must be placed by January 13 for pickup on January 25. For more information, contact Susan Danahy at Greenbelt Baptist Church, 301 474-4212, extension 4.



Our sympathy to the family of Helen Pettit Starnes.

On November 30, Alice Donahue of 4 Ridge Road celebrated her 70th birthday at a party given by her children at the American Legion. About 70 relatives and friends attended.

Congratulations to Virginia Beauchamp on becoming the grandmother of Kristen Catherine Meredith Beauchamp, 4 and Allen John George Beauchamp, 2. They joined the family when they were adopted on December 12 by Edith Beauchamp. Their uncle John W. Beauchamp also lives in Greenbelt. Uncle George Beauchamp lives in Florida.

Insurance Queries? MIA Can Help

The Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA), an independent agency of the State of Maryland, is available once a month to help people who have questions about insurance coverage, want to know how to file a complaint against their insurance company or are interested in consumer education materials. An MIA representative will be at the Multiservice Center, 14735 Main Street, Room 083B, Upper Marlboro on Monday, December 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

The MIA regulates Maryland's life, health, automobile and homeowner's insurance industry, protects consumers by ensuring that insurance companies and health plans act in accordance with insurance laws and investigates and resolves consumer complaints of insurance companies operating in Maryland.

For information call the MIA at 1-800-492-6116, TTY users may call via the Maryland Relay Service at 1-800-735-2258.

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi (301-937-3666)
Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community
December 22, 10 a.m.
Saturn and the Dragons of the Solstice
Barbara Wells, co-minister with Jennifer Grant as worship associate



Barbara Wells and Jacob B. ten Hove, co-ministers

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH



Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor
Corner of Crescent & Greenhill Rds
301-474-4212 gbaptist@myexcel.com

Sun. Worship 8:35 & 11:00 am, 6 pm
Wed. Praise and Prayer 7 pm
Wed. Living Proof for Youth 7 pm

"BUILDING BRIDGES TO THE FAMILY OF GOD THRU THE LOVE OF CHRIST"



We invite you to celebrate the birth of Christ at St. George's Episcopal/Anglican Church!

7010 Glenn Dale Road
(Corner of Lanham-Severn Road and Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

Christmas Eve

Christmas Day

5 pm: Children's Service
10 pm: Midnight Mass*

Noon: Service with Carols*

*ASL Interpreted



A welcoming, inclusive congregation!



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Sunday, December 22
Advent Service, Lessons and Carols with handbells and choir: 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve
Family Christmas Eve Service: 5:00 p.m.

Traditional Christmas Service The Christ Mass of Holy Communion with brass, strings, handbells, organ, and choir: 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day
Holy Communion Service: 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 31
New Year's Eve Holy Communion Service: 5:00 p.m.



6905 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@erols.com
www.erols.com/myholycross
Rev. Stephen H. Mentz, Pastor (301) 345-5111

MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday 8, 9:30, 11 a.m.
Saturday 5 p.m.

Daily Mass: As announced
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Rev. Thomas F. Crowley, Pastor
Rev. R. Scott Hurd, Pastoral Associate
Part Time Ministry

ST. HUGH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Md.

Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.

Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
301-474-9410

SUNDAY



Children and Adults
Bible Study
Worship Service

9:30 am
11:00 am

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE
www.gbgm-UMC.org/mowatt

Mon. Disciple Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Tues. Lectionary Study 8:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:45 p.m.

Rev. DaeHwa Park, Pastor

Dec. 22, 4th Sunday of Advent - Sermon: "The Birth of Messiah"
7:00 pm, Tuesday, Dec. 24 - Feast of Holy Nativity,
Sermon: "The Most Dangerous Baby"

Baha'i Faith

"O Friends! Abandon not the everlasting beauty for a beauty that must die, and set not your affections on this mortal world of dust."

-Baha'i Sacred Writings

Greenbelt Baha'i Community
P.O. Box 245
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-345-2918 301-220-3160
Information about the Baha'i Faith is on the World Wide Web at <http://www.bahai.org/>



Catholic Community of Greenbelt

SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM
Municipal Building

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS
December 24, 6:30 PM

Municipal Building

SERVE BREAKFAST
AT S.O.M.E.

Sunday, December 29, 2002

Meet at St. Hugh's School

Parking Lot, 6:00 AM

City Notes

The week of December 9, the Public Works Department concentrated on clean-up after the snow storm. A crew worked Saturday, December 7 to continue clearing streets and parking lots; snow was pushed back on streets and equipment was repaired and serviced. When an ice storm hit early Wednesday morning, December 11, crews were again called in and worked through the day to keep streets and sidewalks open and safe. Several crew members were on duty each evening as the thawing snow froze when temperatures dropped. In addition, the following tasks were done: the horticulture crew mulched new landscaping along Southway and pruned dead wood from trees along Crescent Road.

The parks crew constructed a “rustic” wooden bench for installation at Buddy Attick Park and poured concrete ends for benches to be installed at the Youth Center. They made a wood sign for the east entrance to the Lake Park and purchased an additional 2,000 pounds of ice melt.

The cleaning crew power scrubbed the floor and decorated the lunch room at Public Works and performed routine cleaning of all city buildings.

The streets crew repaired snow plow and salt equipment.

The special operations crew continued work on new signs for the Lake Park and Roosevelt Center and replaced a burned-out traffic light at Green Ridge House. They removed a handicapped parking sign which was no longer needed on Ridge Road and continued replacing No Parking signs around the city.

The facilities maintenance crew installed a 45-foot pole at the Dog Park to provide lighting in the near future, repaired a neon light on the old Greenbelt Theatre marquee, installed a new oven in the Community Center kitchen and took the old one to be recycled. The crew also worked on roof leaks at the Community Center and the Aquatic and Fitness Center caused by snow, ice and rain.

Opera Society Concert and Dinner

The Maryland Opera Society presents its annual holiday concert, “Christmas Throughout the Ages,” on Sunday, December 29 at 6 p.m. in the Ascension Church’s Great Hall at 7500 Lanham-Severn Road in old Bowie.

The concert, which is directed by Gerry Muller, Ph.D., will feature three interludes. In-

MVA Closed For Holidays

Employees at the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) will have a day off on Wednesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas Day and on Wednesday, January 1 for New Year’s Day. Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program (VEIP) stations will also be closed on both days.

Customers who need to renew a vehicle registration of a passenger vehicle, motorcycle, light duty truck or small trailer are encouraged to take advantage of the MVA’s additional convenient, easy and timesaving options: renew on-line at www.marylandmva.com, renew by telephone at 1-888-834-7344 or renew at one of 12 kiosk locations in the state. The closest kiosk for Greenbelt is at Beltway Plaza. Services available at the eMVA kiosk include registration renewal, driving record ordering, PIN management, change-of-address and VEIP extension requests.

A major credit card or personal check is necessary for on-line vehicle registration renewals and either is accepted at the kiosks. Telephone renewals require a major credit card. Additional services are offered on the MVA internet site.

For more information call 1-800-950-1MVA (1682) or visit the MVA at www.marylandmva.com.

Boys and Girls Club Needs Umpires

The Prince George’s County Boys & Girls Club is looking for people with baseball experience to become umpires for the 2003 baseball season. Leagues for ages 10 to 16 will form in May. Umpires will receive free, expert training in baseball rules and field mechanics beginning in February.

People interested in becoming an umpire and earning extra money while having fun should call 301-249-5858 or e-mail ghm24@starpower.net; TTY 301-699-2544.


This program is sponsored by The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

terlude I will be old and ancient solos and duets; Interlude II, solos and duets from opera and operetta; and Interlude III, Christmas tunes.

There is a fee, which includes dinner and entertainment at 7 p.m. There will be a cash bar from 6 to 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 301-262-1255 or 301-441-1841.

DISP

AYOURADHERE



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

Sunday, Dec 22 8:35 am & 11:00 am

Christmas Cantata

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec 24

6:00 pm Soup and Pic Supper

7:00 pm Candlelight Service

New Year's Eve, Tuesday, Dec 31


9:00 pm Family Fun and Games

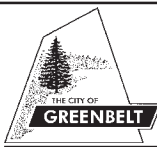
11:30 pm New Year's Service

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

101 GREENHILL ROAD, GREENBELT

301-474-4212 greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net





City Information

You are invited to a
RECEPTION TO HONOR

State Senator Leo E. Green
State Delegate Joan B. Pitkin
State Delegate Mary A. Conroy
State Delegate James W. Hubbard
County Councilmember Audrey Scott

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2002
1:00-3:00 p.m.
GREENBELT MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Greenbelt City Council invites you to attend a
reception to honor these individuals for their years
of service to the Greenbelt Community.

CHRISTMAS DAY HOLIDAY

City Offices will be closed on
Wednesday , December 25
THE GREENBELT CONNECTION WILL
NOT OPERATE ON THAT DAY.

REFUSE/RECYCLING COLLECTION


Week of December 23rd

Monday Route.....Regular Schedule
Tuesday Route Regular Schedule
Wednesday Route.....Collected Thursday
Thursday Route.....Collected Friday
There will be no appliance or yard waste collection on Friday,
December 27th

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW FOR

Greenbelt New Year 2003

Tuesday, December 31 -
Wednesday, January 1
Community Center/Youth Center/
Art Center/Old Greenbelt Theater &
New Deal Cafe
6:45pm - 1am
All ages are welcome.
Advance sales: 11/26 - 12/30: Ages
0-4/FREE; Ages 5+/\$5;
After 12/30: Ages 0 -4/FREE, Ages
5+ / \$7



Finish 2002 and end the year with an alcohol free New Year’s
celebration for all ages.
DEFINITELY A DON’T MISS EVENT!!
Hosted by: Greenbelt New Year Committee and The Greenbelt
Recreation Department

ATTENTION ALL RESIDENTS

As part of the New Year’s Eve festivities, fireworks
will be set off on Braden Field at
6:30PM on December 31, 2002.

In the event of inclement weather, fireworks will be set off the
next clear evening. Please inform all members of your household
about this scheduled event.

HOLIDAY GREETING CARDS
RECYCLING

Residents may drop off the fronts of their holiday cards at the
Greenbelt Co-op, Greenbelt Community Center or the Greenway
Safeway from:
DECEMBER 20 - JANUARY 10th.
The Greenbelt Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee
will donate the used cards to charitable organizations to be
made into new greeting cards.

OPENINGS ON BOARDS &
COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory
groups. Vacancies exist on the:
Public Safety Advisory Committee

For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

Greenbelt CARES
FREE BABYSITTING
COURSE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31
10:00 am-1:00pm
Municipal Building
25 Crescent Road
Council Room-2nd Floor

Course is targeted toward
students in grades 5-8.
Students will learn responsi-
bility and health and safety
issues of takeing care of
children as well as learning
about poison control and fire
prevention.

Students who complete the
course wil receive a certifi-
cate of completion and be
eligible to participate in
Greenbelt CARES Job Bank
Program. Info and enroll-
ment: 301-345-6660, ext. 144


LEAF VACUUM
COLLECTION
SCHEDULE

For Single Family Homes
Only
December 23-27:
Lakewood and
Greenspring 1 and 2

December 30-Jan. 3:
Lakeside and Windsor
Green

Jan. 6-Jan. 15th: All Areas
Remember: Rake leaves to
the curb, keeping piles away
from cars and storm drains.
Remove tree limbs, rocks
and other debris-this can
damage the equipment and
cause injuries. Collection
signs will be placed in your
neighborhood the week
before the collection.

Greenbelt Recreation
Department



SKATEBOARD
TRIP

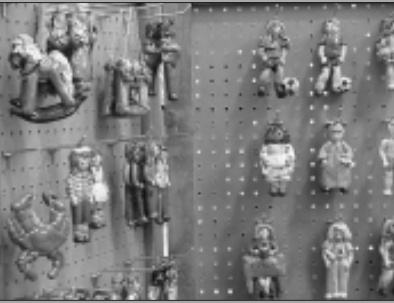
Friday, December 27, 2002
Charm City Skatepark-
Indoor Facility
(4401 O’Donnell St.
Baltimore, MD)

Meet at Youth Center at
11:45am. Van will leave at
12pm sharp. Skate time is
from 12:30pm-3:30pm
\$12- Includes transporta-
tion and entrance to the
skate park.
YOU MUST PRE-REGIS-
TER. Space is limited to the
first 15 people. Forms avail-
able at the Youth Center.

The Greenbelt Recreation
Department and Charm City
Skatepark require proper pro-
tective gear to be worn and
waiver forms be properly
completed. For more info
contact Greg Varda at 301-
397-2200



Many holiday decorations were available for purchase.



Figures made of bread dough are displayed on a pegboard.



The Greenbelt Museum shop has many holiday gifts.



Craftsperson demonstrates her skills.



Melinda and Sylvia Tennison of Ridge Road buy a T-shirt from Patti Brothers at the Greenbelt New Year 2003 table at the crafts fair.

Arts and Craft Fair Had Variety of Holiday Gifts

by Sabine Hentrich

Prints, paintings, stained glass arts and ornaments, pottery, jewelry, quilts, clothes, hats, pillows, soaps, creams, lotions, cookies, chocolates, marmalade, honey, toys and many other treasures filled a Community Center gym saturated with scents like lavender oil and chocolate vanilla mousse-flavored beeswax. If any of these riches happened to be on one's holiday shopping list this season, the Greenbelt Art and Craft Fair at the Community Center was a gold mine.

Still in the Christmas mood after last week's December snowstorm, vendors were not only ready to sell their products but also eager to chat about their crafts, skills, hobbies and professions.

Mike Worrell, for instance, founder of Outback Bee Products from Freeland, who has been to the show for many years, informed saddened customers that this was his last year at the fair since he and his wife are retiring to Costa Rica, where he will join their son, whose wife is expecting twins in March. A beekeeper, he sells any imaginable bee product, such as deliciously scented honey-oatmeal soaps, beeswax candles, hand lotion, gourmet honey, homemade honey pots and dippers and beeswax furniture polish. Worrell's wife also sells mugs, totes, mats, hand-knit cloths and clothes at the same stand.

For a few dollars, Melissa Avery sold several layers of cookies in an aesthetically pleasing tin box. There were peanut clusters, chocolate chip cookies, sugar cut-outs and many more mouthwatering varieties. Avery also sold beautifully packaged marmalade, hand-knit sweaters and do-it-yourself cookie mixes, marmalade and hand-knit sweaters.

Wendy Moore, a nurse and mother of two from Berwyn Heights, owns a small home business in handmade candles, soaps, lotions and other gifts. Candle and soap making has been her hobby for about 10 years and she finds it so much fun that she recruited two neigh-

borhood teenagers, Gabe Bell and Rochelle Pazmino. Moore related an interesting story about lavender: its crushed seeds were used in 19th century France to calm unruly students. Lavender oil is now one of the major ingredients in stress relief products.

Quilts and quillows – small quilts that fold up into pillows – are Gayle Negri's passion. She and her husband have been selling them at the Greenbelt Art and Craft Fair for about four years and are always happy to return.

Seeing quillows in primarily simple floral designs gave Negri the idea to modernize them with popular Harry Potter patterns and other images from recent movie icons and patriotic themes. Negri also designs quilts and quillows using the customer's specifications. "Half the fun is talking to people and seeing what they want," she said.

Kids Crafts

And if the enjoyment of foraging through all these treasures created by other people was not enough, one could make one's own. Children of all ages were welcomed into the craft rooms to make ornaments, cards and other Christmas decorations. Five-year-old Emery Bacon indulged in decorating – and eating – Christmas cookies while his mother and grandmother shopped at the fair. Michael Stevens, also five years old, particularly enjoyed twisting pipe cleaners into candy-cane shaped ornaments, one of which he just had to give to his favorite children's craft room coordinator Gaye Houchens, who is just amazing with young children.

The Art and Craft Fair offered something for everyone. Whether one wanted merely to stroll through the fair while giving the children the opportunity to work in the Arts Room with plenty of glitter – no questions asked – or whether one needed gifts for those hard-to-buy-for people, this was the right place. The fair provided a relaxed atmosphere and a great alternative to the season's overcrowded malls.



Stained-glass ornaments here are displayed on a Christmas tree.



Jessica Mealey helps in the children's art room.



The Art and Craft sale brought many customers.



Marc Gitlis demonstrates use of the potters' wheel.



Elaine Wilson awaits a customer.



Mary and Joey play in the snow tunnel made by neighborhood children in a large snow pile created by city plows on Maplewood Court.



It's a tug of war! Wesley Silversten, age 6, and his pal Casey enjoy the snow at Lakeside North.



For those homes already decorated for the holidays, the snow fall gave extra oomph to the decorations. Here a giant artificial snowman on Maplewood Court stands in the midst of the six-inch deep snow.

Warm Memories of Holidays

The following vignettes are part of a continuing series of childhood memories from holiday seasons of World War II of Greenbelt pioneers and present-day docents. The Friends of the Greenbelt Museum is featuring three vignettes and other wartime memorabilia in the historic house museum during this year's holiday season. The house is open Sunday afternoons from 1 to 5 p.m.

Holiday Memories

The following vignettes reflect how some pioneers and Greenbelt Museum docents celebrated the holidays during the war.

Barbara Havekost, Docent

The war years were tough times. I was the youngest of six children, so Christmas was a big deal. Most of our gifts were handmade by our mother or bought articles of clothing such as shoes or boots. Each of my siblings and I got only one toy at Christmas. We started baking in early December—fruitcake, cookies, candy. We did a lot of popcorn and cranberry strings. Christmas 1944 was tough. My oldest brother had gone into the war; he was on a mine destroyer in the Pacific. My second brother was scheduled to go into the war as soon as he graduated in May 1945. Even though I was only nine, I certainly felt the tension in the family because of worry about my brothers.

Frieda Pearlzweig, Pioneer

Right after Pearl Harbor the men in town registered for the draft. Photographs were taken that day. One shows Ben, her

husband, sitting behind the desk with Abe Chasnow, another pioneer. Abe signed Ben up and Ben signed Abe up, then they stayed and helped sign up others. It wasn't long it seemed before Ben was in the army. I remained in Greenbelt with our two children on Hillside. During the war, Joe Vella, another pioneer, and Ben were in the same theater, and whenever I heard from Ben, I would call or go see Josephine Vella; when she heard from Joe, she would do the same for me. During the war a lot of us were plane spotters. We used to climb the ladder above the drug store, now the Beijing Restaurant, to watch for planes and, whenever we saw one, we'd call in and report it.

Lucille Howell, Pioneer

The holidays were a sad time during the war. My brother was in the National Guard; my sister, Nellie Virginia Taylor, joined the WACs and was sent to France for the Battle of Normandy. My husband Carson was an air raid warden and watched for enemy planes on the roof of the drug store. We had black out curtains

at our windows. Christmas dinner was often chicken or turkey, fruit (fresh or canned), salad, mashed potatoes and fresh cranberry sauce. Butter and sugar were rationed so fruitcake was hard to find. One year, Mrs. Roosevelt gave Carson a fruitcake as a Christmas gift. (Carson Howell worked in the White House for Eleanor Roosevelt, and every president to Richard Nixon). We were having a dinner party the night Pearl Harbor was bombed. Our neighbor came to our door and told us to turn on our radio. It dampened the dinner party.

Note: The train set in the Museum belonged to Lucille Howell.

Mary Linstrom, Docent

Sugar and coffee were rationed. Cloth was also rationed. You could only buy 3 or 3 ½ yards of cloth to make a dress or a suit, unless it was for maternity clothes. Clothing was very simple. Costume jewelry was a favorite gift. Shoes were rationed because leather was needed for the soldiers' shoes. One of Mary's friends received a pair of

espadrilles (sandals) from a friend in South America. She had to give up some of her ration coupons to get the shoes through customs. Film was also rationed. As soon as a store received a shipment, it was sold out. Kiwi boot polish, make in the UK, was hard to find. Every year, Mary's family in Kentucky made fruitcake. They made it after Thanksgiving, wrapped it in cheesecloth, and put it in the attic. Each week, they went to the attic and doused it with a tablespoon of whiskey. It was a big event to go to the market and buy the special candied cherries and pineapple that went into the fruitcake.

Families made up boxes for the servicemen and filled them with popular magazines such as *Life*, film, shoe polish. Cookies were wrapped with popcorn to prevent them from crumbling during transit overseas. Everyone sent V-mail, the V was for "Victory." Some families had a big "V" home sticker to display in a window. It would mean that your family did its best to help out during the war.



Tyler Siegel, age 9, and his sister Sydney, age 6, stand beside their snow covered and decorated car. Their parents are Diane and Marc of Maplewood Court.

Holiday Greetings



Mary and Al Geiger wish all of their Greenbelt friends a Happy Christmas and healthy and prosperous New Year.

Seasons Greetings

from Sophia Kean, Mary Lou and Jim Williamson



Blessings of the Season to my friend Jean D'Esposito -Rusty

Holiday Greetings To Friends, old and new, And a Healthy and Happy New Year, too. Liz & Charlie Nash and Philip Pels



Holiday Greetings To all our Greenbelt friends, may this holiday season be filled with the joy of family and friends and the New Year filled with peace and fulfillment. Bernie and Jim Giese

To All My GREENBELT FRIENDS and NEIGHBORS



Wishing you all the beauty and peace of the holiday season and the best in the year to come.



Judith "J" Davis



PHOTO BY MARAT MOORE

DECEMBER 2002						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
23	24	25	26	27	28	
29						

Sale Prices Effective
Dec. 23rd thru Dec. 29th



GREENBELT CONSUMER CO-OP

SUPERMARKET PHARMACY

121 CENTERWAY-ROOSEVELT CENTER GREENBELT, MARYLAND
Visit us online at www.greenbeltco-op.com

SUPERMARKET
Mon. thru Sat. 9 a.m. til 9 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. til 6 p.m.
301-474-0522

PHARMACY
Mon. thru Fri. 9 a.m. til 7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. til 6 p.m.
Closed Sunday
301-474-4400

OPEN TO ANYONE You Do Not Have To Be A Member To Shop

• EPIC DRUG CENTER Shop and Save At CO-OP •

We Sell METRO Fares

We Sell U.S. Postage Stamps

• Photo Finishing •

We Accept Most Debit and Credit Cards

FRESH QUALITY MEATS	
U.S.D.A. Choice Beef Standing Rib Roast \$4⁹⁹ lb.	
Fresh 86% Extra Lean Ground Round \$1⁶⁹ lb.	Perdue Boneless Thin Sliced Chicken Breast \$2⁶⁹ lb.
Super Tru Frozen Turkeys 10-22 lb. 69¢ lb.	Fresh Lean Boneless Pork Loin Roast \$2⁶⁹ lb.
Smoked Ham Shank Portion \$1²⁹ lb.	Fresh Lean Boneless Pork Loin Chops \$2⁹⁹ lb.
Fresh Lean Pork Tenderloin \$3⁶⁹ lb.	Smoked Ham Rump Portion \$1⁵⁹ lb.
Perdue Chicken Wingettes \$6⁹⁹ 4 lb.	Bob Evans Link Sausage \$2⁴⁹ 12 oz.

DAIRY	DELI
Land-O-Lakes Cheese Chunks 8 oz. \$1³⁹	Esskay Peppered Ham \$4⁹⁹ lb.
Nestle's Slice & Bake Cookie Dough 18 oz. \$1⁸⁹	Carolina Turkey Ham \$2⁴⁹ lb.
Land-O-Lakes Half & Half Creamer 16 oz. 69¢	Deli Pork Roast \$4⁹⁹ lb.
Best Yet Whipped Dessert Topping 6.5 oz. 89¢	Deli-Style Plain Potato Salad \$1⁵⁹ lb.

HOT FOODS DELI	SEAFOOD
Pipin' Hot Roast Beef & Gravy Sandwich \$1⁹⁹ Each	26-30 Count Gulf Shrimp \$6⁹⁹ lb.
BAKERY	Fresh Oysters Standard-or-Select \$5⁹⁹ 16 oz.
Fresh Baked Kaiser Rolls \$1⁹⁹ 6 Pack	Henry's Heat & Eat Crabcakes \$4⁶⁹ lb.

GROCERY BARGAINS		
Francisco Rinaldi Spaghetti Sauces All Varieties	99¢ 26 oz.	HOLIDAY STORE HOURS Tues., Dec. 24th OPEN 8am-til-6pm Closed Christmas Day Then resume regular store hours. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
Top Ramen Noodle Soups All Varieties	9¢ 3 oz.	
Domino Baking Sugars 10X-Dark Brown- Light Brown-Brownulated	59¢ 14-16 oz.	Ajax Liquid Dish Detergent
General Mill's Honey Nut Cheerios-or- Wheaties Cereal	\$1⁹⁹ 14-18 oz.	89¢ 19 oz.
Libby Pumpkin	\$1¹⁹ 29 oz.	Crisco Cooking Oils Original-Canola-Blend
Armour Chili With Beans	69¢ 15 oz.	Mardi Gras Economy Pack Napkins
		\$1⁸⁹ 48 oz.
		Arm & Hammer Extra Value Size Liquid Laundry Detergent
		\$4⁹⁹ 200 oz.
		Swiss Miss Hot Chocolate
		\$1¹⁹ 10 Pk.
		Silver Floss Sauerkraut
		69¢ 27 oz.
		Libby's Golden Corn- Sweet Peas- Cut/French Green Beans
		39¢ 14-15 oz.
		Star Kist Chunk Light Tuna
		59¢ 6 oz.
		Mueller's Vermicelli -or-Elbow Macaroni
		39¢ 1 lb.
		Best Yet Paper Towels
		49¢ 85 Sheet Roll

	Manischewitz Rye Breads Assorted Varieties \$1⁷⁹ 16 oz.
	Best Yet Original Macaroni & Cheese 29¢ 7.25 oz.

Kellogg's Frosted Flakes-or-Smacks Cereal \$1⁷⁹ 13-15 oz.	Best Yet Jumbo Size Soda Assorted Flavors 59¢ 3 Liters	Nabisco Snack Crackers Triscuits-Thins-Better Cheddars-Sociables-Chicken \$1⁹⁹ 6-10 oz.
Smuckers Grape Jelly \$1¹⁹ 32 oz.	HEALTH & BEAUTY	Best Yet Pineapple In Juice 59¢ 20 oz.
Schmidt's 100% Stoneground Wheat Bread \$1¹⁹ 24 oz.	Blistex Bonus Pack Lip Balm 99¢ .15 oz.	Pop Secret Value Size Microwave Popcorn \$1⁸⁹ 18-21 oz.
Hawaiian Punch Fruit Drinks Red-Orange \$1⁷⁹ Gallon	NEW! Best Yet Tri-Flex Razor Kits \$4⁹⁹ 4 Pack	Kellogg's Family Pack Pop Tarts Assorted Varieties \$1⁹⁹ 22 oz.
Best Yet Plastic Party Cups 89¢ 20 Pk.-16 oz.	Coty Scented Fragrances Ass. Mens & Ladies \$3⁹⁹ .3-.5 oz.	Best Yet Mandarin Oranges 39¢ 11 oz.
Haddon House Onion Stuffed Spanish Olives \$1⁴⁹ 5 oz.	HOUSEWARES	Ortega Salsa Ass. Varieties \$1⁴⁹ 16 oz.
	Kodak Funsaver Disposable Flash Camera \$6⁹⁹ 27 Exp.	
	Empire Richly Scented Jar Candles \$6⁹⁹ 23 oz.	
	Mr. Coffee 10-Cup Auto Coffee Maker \$16⁹⁹ Each	

FRESH PRODUCE	
	Sweet Mini-Crate Clementines \$4⁹⁹ 36 Pack
Vitamin Packed Broccoli Crowns 99¢ lb.	Sweet Ripe Cantaloupe \$1⁹⁹ Each
Nature's finest Peeled Baby Carrots 99¢ 1 lb.	Crunchy Anjou Pears 99¢ lb.
Crisp Green Celery 99¢ Bunch	Large Hass Avocados 99¢ Each
Fresh White Mushrooms \$1²⁹ 8 oz.	Lively California Lemons 3/\$1⁰⁰
Leafy Green Cabbage 39¢ lb.	Organic Gala Apples \$1²⁹ lb.

FROZEN FOOD	BEER & WINE
Turkey Hill Ice Cream All Flavors \$2⁴⁹ 1/2 Gallon	Imported Bass Ale \$6⁹⁹ 6 Pack-12 oz. N.R.'s
Weaver Boneless Chicken Tenders-Nuggets-Rondelets \$2¹⁹ 9-12 oz.	B&G Wines \$8⁹⁹ 1.5 Liter
Stouffer's French Bread Pizza Ass. Varieties \$1⁹⁹ 10-12 oz.	Lite Beer \$7⁹⁹ 12 Pack-12 oz. N.R.'s
Best Yet Bagels All Varieties 69¢ 12 oz.	Taylor Champagne \$5⁹⁹ 750 ML.

NATURALS	PROFESSIONAL PHARMACY
Ryvita Rye Crispbreads Ass. Varieties \$1⁴⁹ 8.8 oz.	EPIC PHARMACY
Spice Hunter All Natural Cider Mulling Spices \$1¹⁹ 1.25 oz.	■ Courteous Professional Staff
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POLICE BLOTTER

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department.
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Theft

6900 block Hanover Parkway, December 8, 6:21 p.m., a 35-year-old Greenbelt resident was arrested after he hired a taxi to ride from Greenbelt to an address in Germantown but on arrival, said he had no money to pay the fare. He was driven back to Greenbelt where he was arrested. The man was released on citation pending trial.

6100 block Breezewood Court, December 12, 8:36 p.m., an unattended purse was taken after the victim put it down to assist a motorist whose vehicle had become stuck in the mud. The suspect seen taking the purse is described only as a black male, 30, tall and thin, wearing blue jeans and a jacket. He left the area on a bicycle.

Burglary

9200 block Springhill Lane, December 9, 10:33 a.m., a 16-year-old Greenbelt resident was arrested for possession of burglary tools commonly used to steal automobiles. He was released pending action by the juvenile justice system.

6100 block Breezewood Drive, December 10, 7 a.m., someone used unknown means to enter the

residence. Jewelry was taken.

Roosevelt Center, December 10, 8:49 a.m., someone forced open the interior doors to two office suites. At this time it is unknown if anything was taken.

Trespassing

Greenbelt Community Center, December 12, 9:07 p.m., a 57-year-old resident was arrested after he was observed inside the property from which he had been banned. He was released on citation pending trial.

Disorderly Conduct

Roosevelt Center, December 6, 10:59 a.m., a 38-year-old resident was observed acting in a disorderly manner, causing a crowd to form. After arrest, he was released on citation pending trial.

Beltway Plaza, December 6, 10:03 p.m., a 16-year-old resident of Hyattsville was arrested at the AMC Theatres after he was heard shouting profanities. He was asked to leave the theatre but refused and fled when an officer tried to place him under arrest. He was apprehended after a foot chase and was released to a relative pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Vehicle Crime

The following vehicles were re-

ported stolen: a blue 1987 Toyota Camry four-door, no tags, December 5, from the 7700 block Hanover Parkway; a 1989 Toyota Camry four-door, December 6, from the 5900 block Cherrywood Lane, which was recovered the next day by Metropolitan Police in northeast Washington; a blue 1990 Toyota Camry four-door, Md. tags CDN436, December 7, from the 5800 block Cherrywood Lane; a 2003 Dodge Stratus four-door, December 7, which was recovered December 10 by County police in Seat Pleasant; a black 1992 Chevrolet Caprice four-door, Md. tags KEM982, December 8, from the 9100 block Edmonston Road; a 1994 Acura Integra two-door, December 9, from the 8400 block Canning Terrace, which was recovered the same day by county police in New Carrollton.

Eight previously-stolen vehicles were recovered; no arrests were involved.

Vandalism to, thefts from, and attempted thefts of vehicles were reported in the following areas: 5900 block Cherrywood Lane; 6200 block Springhill Court (two incidents); 6000 block Breezewood Drive; Beltway Plaza (two incidents); 7600 block Mandan Road.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Citizens may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522. Victims of the theft of lawn ornaments, tools, lawn mowers, etc., should contact Criminal Investigations at 301-507-6530. Some items have been recovered and police would like to return them to owners.

The Rocking Chair

by Rusty Anthony

In 1969 when my two children were about seven and eight years old, we were walking up the street in Jackson Heights, New York. We passed a furniture store a couple of blocks from our apartment and in the window was a rocking chair. I, in passing, mentioned that it was a beautiful chair and I would like to have it.

I forgot all about it until one day I stopped in to find the cost of the chair and noted that it was no longer in the show window. The salesman gave me the price but told me that it was on hold. He said that two kids had come in with some money that they had saved and asked him to take the money and hold the chair. He didn't want to disappoint them but he didn't know how much longer he could hold it because they were only giving him a couple of dollars every week. They had told him that they wanted to buy it for their mom for Christmas.

He said he didn't know if they would have enough money by Christmas. I think the cost of the chair was about \$75-\$100, and that was expensive 30-plus years ago. So he was going to give them a discount because he knew that they really wanted this chair for their mom. I knew right away that it had to be my two little ones. I told him who I was and gave him most of the balance due, but asked him not to tell my children.

When they went in a few days before Christmas to find out how much more money they needed, he told them that the chair was now on sale and that they only owed a couple of dollars. They rushed home to ask me for a "loan" – said they would pay me back if they received money for Christmas. I knew what they were up to, so I gave them the money. I found out later that on Christmas Eve the owner of the store helped them bring it up 15 stairs to our second-floor apartment. I had to "go to my room" while they brought it in and hid it in one of their rooms. They could hardly wait for me to walk into the living room on Christmas morning. There sat the most beautiful Christmas gift I could have received, not because it was a beautiful chair and because I really wanted it, but because my children had gone to great lengths to purchase it for me.

I was in tears. The look on their faces was beyond belief – they were so happy because they had made me happy. I loved them for it. Even now, many years later, when I look at that chair (oh, yes, it sits in my living room) or when I sit down and rock after a weary day, I think of two little kids hearing mom's remark about the beautiful rocking chair, saving their money to buy it, and making me the happiest mom in the world.

Victim Impact Letters Due in Penney Case

Sentencing in the manslaughter case against Scott Ashley Davis, the driver of the car that struck and killed Walt Penney, will be held on January 28, 2003. Penney was killed while riding his bike on Sligo Creek Parkway last January. Penney grew up in Greenbelt and continued to frequent Greenbelt with his family while visiting his mother Leonie Penney of Northway.

Davis, who was found guilty on many charges, now faces up to 10 years incarceration on the manslaughter charge and fines on several lesser charges – speeding, failure to reduce speed on curves, failure to keep right of center and passing in a no passing zone.

Friends, neighbors, supporters and organizations may write "victim impact" letters to the judge prior to sentencing. At its meeting Monday, December 16 the Greenbelt City Council voted unanimously to write a community impact letter.

Letters should be sent before January 10 and should clearly identify the letter-writer. Copies will be given to both the prosecution and the defense as well as the judge.

Letters may be addressed to the Honorable Duke G. Thompson, Montgomery County Circuit Court, Re: Criminal Number 95480 and mailed to Ethel Burnett, Victim-Witness Coordinator, Office of the State's Attorney for Montgomery County, Maryland, 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850.

Sentencing will take place in Court Room 2 at the Montgomery County Judicial Center, 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville. Directions and parking information are available on the following website by clicking on "The Courthouse Map and Parking" at the top left of the screen at: <http://www.co.mo.md.us/judicial>.

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This *ONE* bedroom *UPPER LEVEL END* unit has been freshly painted and includes a window air conditioner, ceiling fan, extra storage closet, new wall-to-wall carpeting, large corner yard and storage shed. **\$49,900**

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This three bedroom block unit has wall-to-wall carpeting, ceiling fans, built-in air conditioner, humidifier, washer, dryer, remodeled bathroom. You can relax because all the landscaping has been done for you! Library end of town. **Price reduced!**

13-F Hillside Road

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This two bedroom frame unit has a remodeled kitchen with new refrigerator, washer, dryer and stove and a remodeled bathroom. Hardwood floors, extra storage closet, deck, and fenced yards are just the beginning. **\$67,900**

32-C Ridge Road

NEW LISTING

This two bedroom *WIDE FLOOR PLAN* is a short walk to the Center. A **full second bathroom** (handicap accessible) has been added on the first floor. The kitchen has been remodeled and includes a dishwasher. A built-in air conditioner, washer, dryer and self-cleaning oven are a few of the extras. **\$87,500**

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Exclusive Listing! Take a short walk to the Lake from this split foyer single family Lakeside home. Five bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, brick fireplace, hardwood floors, sliding glass doors to patio, storage shed, energy efficient furnace and central air conditioning are just the beginning. **\$284,900**

I would like to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy Holiday!

I would also like to THANK my broker, Ray Wen; fellow Realtors, George Cantwell, Mike McAndrew, Tim Uber and their families; Rayetta Henson; my clients, friends and last but not least, my family, Larry, Carrie and John; for all your support and encouragement throughout the years.

Merry Christmas!

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"Sometime After Seven" Wakes Up the New Deal

A Veteran's Christmas Discharge Story

by Bill Hardy

There was a happy crowd at the New Deal Café two Wednesdays ago. Heads were nodding, fingers and feet were tapping and a whole lot of people were smiling. You almost couldn't help yourself.

The reason was a stage overflowing with seven college students playing music that was nearly a flashback to the coffee-house days of the 1960s. Calling themselves "Sometime After Seven," their constantly shifting blues rhythms were accompanied by keyboard, guitar, mandolin, violin, and voices. These musicians clearly loved making music.

The group began to come together in 2001, after guitarist Ryan Luce started hosting a jam night on Fridays at the Performing Arts Center of the University of Maryland. Musicians came and went until Luce, mandolin player Lindsey Jones and keyboard and flute player Jeremy O'Roark realized they had a great musical chemistry. The trio then enlisted the most talented players they knew to round out the sound. Vocalist Kenny Takata, violinist Ellen Baumann and bassist John Akers joined the group. Luce wisely snatched up Steve Lynerd, then wrapping up a master's degree in percussion performance.

"Sometime After Seven" started playing together in September 2002. They rehearse twice a week in College Park.

Several of the songs made major tempo and beat changes, ambitious even for a professional band. Yet this wasn't showing off – these guys just love working the music. Lynerd got up and switched to the piano at the end

of the night, seemingly able to play anything he chose. Akers, the freshman in the group, didn't talk much but kept down a solid foundation with Lynerd.

Lynerd, like the rest of the group, always seemed completely comfortable onstage.

This band brought something to the New Deal two weeks ago that isn't heard very often in the rap-metal, hip-hop posturing of modern pop music. They brought enthusiasm, talent, and the sense that performing isn't about putting up an attitude, it's about the music. And, lucky for us, they're coming back to the New Deal this Friday, December 20, to do it again.

Hispanic Students Scholarship Fund

Allfirst Bank is sponsoring a \$20,000 Allfirst Hispanic College Fund Scholarship Program to provide scholarships to promising Hispanic students in the mid-Atlantic.

The scholarship is open to students who live in the Allfirst market area, which extends from Northern Virginia through the District of Columbia and Maryland and into south-central Pennsylvania. Hispanic students who pursue studies in business, accounting, economics and finance are eligible to apply.

The scholarship program is administered by the Hispanic College Fund, Inc., a national non-profit organization established in 1993, dedicated to developing the next generation of Hispanic business leaders in America by awarding scholarships to deserving Hispanic students.

Interested students can visit www.hispanicfund.org or call 800-644-4223 for more information.

Within the last few years, the Library of Congress has been encouraging veterans of World War II to either write of their experiences or give oral histories to someone to transcribe. For this reason I thought that the following would be of interest. It is not a story about my combat experience, but what Christmas meant to a group of veterans returning to be discharged after the war.

When World War II ended in August 1945, I was stationed in Germany. Because I had enough points to be discharged, I was transferred in October 1945 to an outfit that was scheduled for redeployment to the United States. In the second week of December, we boarded the aircraft carrier Lake Champlain, which had been converted into a troop ship, for the trip back to the United States. We landed on Staten Island on December 19, 1945, and were transported to Camp Dix to go through the discharge procedure.

When we got to Camp Dix, the 4,000 or so of us were marched into a large shed. There a sergeant started to give us the schedule of what would be involved in our discharge. This included a day-by-day description of what we would be going through. Most of us kept track of the number of days this would take and we all realized that we would not finish the discharge process until December 26 or 27. The sergeant then told us that we would be housed in barracks in back of the building and that we should pick up our bags and proceed to the barracks. Not a serviceman moved. When the sergeant asked what was wrong, a self-appointed spokesman for the group notified the sergeant that everyone in the building had a high number of discharge points,

which meant that we all had to have been overseas and in combat for many years. This meant that we had not been with our families for a number of Christmases. We all wanted to be with our families that Christmas and if we could not get discharged before then, we all wanted them to give us passes and we would come back for the discharge after the holidays.

The sergeant informed us that this was not possible because Camp Dix had a schedule to meet and there were troops coming in the next day. When we still refused to move out, he called his captain to talk to us. The captain informed us that we were still in the army and we were disobeying a direct order. We all still refused to move out. The captain then called the camp commander, a colonel. When the colonel came he asked what the problem was. When he was told of our concerns, he stated that they were legitimate. He told us that they would revise and expedite the discharge procedures. If anyone could not get processed and discharged soon enough to be home for Christmas, there would be a pass issued. I understand that all the servicemen who arrived at Camp Dix after us got passes and were told to report back to camp after the first of the year.

The next morning we were given revised schedules with those who lived furthest from the camp being processed first. Since I lived in New York City at the time, I was one of the last to get my discharge. I received my discharge papers at 10 a.m. on December 25, 1945. It took me about two hours to get to Pennsylvania Station where I was met by my wife-to-be, Helen. We immediately made plans for our

wedding and we were married 12 days later on January 6, 1946. This January we will be celebrating our 57th wedding anniversary.

Buy a Book For Schools

The Buy-A-Book program of Greenbelt's Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) makes it easy for people to find an appropriate gift for a child's teacher. ACE has collected wish lists from the schools that Greenbelt children attend as their neighborhood school – Greenbelt Elementary, Springhill Lake Elementary, Magnolia Elementary, St. Hugh's, Greenbelt Middle and Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Recently, the schools added to these lists by indicating that Harry Potter books would also be welcome. To check out the other books schools are interested in, simply ask for the Buy-A-Book Notebook at Books-a-Million (formerly Bookland) in Beltway Plaza. Then pick out one to give a child's teacher for the upcoming holidays.

Book plates are available from ACE members or the Greenbelt CARES office; call 301-345-6660 to obtain one to personalize the book dedication.

Standard & Poor Rates Greenbelt A+

After review, the City of Greenbelt's latest annual financial report and other data resulted in a debt rating of A plus from Standard & Poor's rating service.

The debt rating was for public improvement and refunding bonds.

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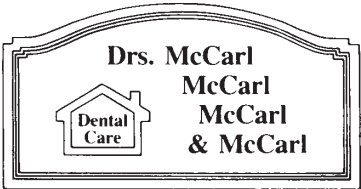
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Colin Powell Administers Oath To New Ambassador Roth

by Cathie Meetre

Richard Roth and his wife, Carol, will be heading to Senegal, West Africa, in the next few weeks to take up the post of United States ambassador to Senegal and Guinea Bissau. Ambassador Roth, a resident of Greenbelt on and off for the last 20 years, was sworn in at a ceremony at the State Department on December 11. Secretary of State Colin Powell administered the oath in the silk and marble opulence of the Franklin Room while a crowd of about 150 family members, friends and colleagues beamed with approval in the light of a thousand crystal prisms.

For Roth, a career foreign service officer, the achievement of ambassadorial status represents the pinnacle of his profession.

Powell alluded to Roth's expertise in African and Middle Eastern affairs and how, during the last two years, the administration has come to rely on Roth's extensive knowledge and informed judgment on matters pertaining to the area. He mentioned Roth's skills as a linguist – fluent in French, Amharic, Arabic and Portuguese – and the excellent relationships he has cemented in the countries he has served.

Peace Corps

Powell noted that Roth's desire to serve in the foreign service, and particularly in Africa, grew out of a Peace Corps experience in neighboring Burkina Faso 30 years ago where he learned first-hand of the needs and struggles of the people. He felt that both the Peace Corps experience and Roth's earlier posting to an Ethiopia struggling with recovery from internal strife would bring valuable insight to help in the emergence of Guinea Bissau



New U.S. ambassador to Senegal Richard Roth and wife Carol celebrating with Suzie Reed, daughter of Vera and Herb Reed of Empire Place.

from the aftermath of a bitter civil war. Roth has also served in Portugal and, most recently, in Israel.

Powell wandered quietly into the room without fanfare or entourage – leaving center stage to the new ambassador. Clearly familiar with Roth's sartorial preferences, Powell's personal warmth and unpretentious informality rang true as he remarked on the unusual experience of seeing Roth decked out in suit and tie, observing that Roth "cleaned up pretty well" – to the amusement of a crowd obviously well aware of Roth's penchant for jeans and sneakers.

Relocations

As a military man, Powell has had his share of relocations and knows well the demands that such service makes on families. He lauded the support Roth has received from his wife Carol and sons Aaron and David in coping with dislocations and difficult adjustments.

Knowing Carol Roth, Powell was quick to point out how ably she would complement her husband in his new role. Carol is now a management analyst at the State Department.

After repeating the oath of of-

fice with Carol holding the Bible, the newly-minted Ambassador Roth addressed the gathering. Clearly moved by the occasion and the trust placed in him by Powell, Roth declared his commitment to the task ahead and, pausing to choke back emotion, touchingly stressed his love for and faith in Carol as they embark together on this new adventure.

To representatives of Senegal and Guinea Bissau who attended the ceremony, Roth, echoing Powell, remarked warmly how much he looked forward to working with their countries in strengthening democracy, building stronger economic infrastructures and supporting the rule of law.

Greenbelters

Several Greenbelters were privileged to be in the audience; Vera, Herb and Suzie Reed; Bryn and Alan Schultz; Rick and Cathie Meetre; and Joyce Krieger all attended.

The Roths were members of the Greenbelt Babysitting Cooperative when their sons were small. They have faithfully kept their Greenbelt contacts alive through long absences, returning to their home in Boxwood between postings and resuming participation in book clubs, rotating dinners, and other Greenbelt activities. Their sons attended local elementary schools and ERHS. Both were present for the ceremony, as were Roth's mother and Carol's sister.

After the ceremony, a reception was held a few blocks away to toast the Roths and wish them a safe and productive term of office in Senegal.

Skateboard Park Location To Be Researched Further

by Eileen Petersen

Over 60 people came to the Community Center's multipurpose room on December 11 to consider a site for the planned city-owned skate park.

For 90 minutes, the forum, hosted by the city's Park and Recreation Advisory Board and the Youth Advisory Committee, drew 26 speakers to the podium to express support, dissent and a variety of suggestions on the site plan which had been narrowed down to the Braden Field tennis courts seven and eight.

After brief overviews of the planned facility by City Recreation Department Director "Hank" Irving and Joe McNeal, assistant director of Facilities/Operations, the parade of speakers offered a wide range of cogent arguments. McNeal had said that "the users will have major input on the park" and that "there are grants" for such projects which "require such input." The speakers responded in short, pointed speeches.

Doug Mangum, adult member on the Youth Advisory Committee, as well as a parent of a skateboarder, favored the tennis court site but later expressed openness to sites yet to be considered. Bill Wilkerson supported a skate park, but "not on courts seven and eight." He outlined the need for eight courts for tournaments and said losing two courts will end competitive tennis in Greenbelt." Ed Kaplinger expressed the same park support but elaborated on the needs of the many Greenbelt tennis clubs and associations (including schools) that need court space. He brought petitions signed by tennis players. Kelly Ivy, Sr. urged reassessment of the location, as did Lakeside resident Christopher Stark.

Even though the city is committed to building the facility, many speakers reinforced the need and citizen support. Thelma Sweeney of Plateau Place, an adult member of the Skateboard Coalition (a grassroots support group) stressed

the need for a place "to skate safely and responsibly."

Young skateboarders eagerly offered support and suggestions: Kerry Mullaney, noting there is not convenient skateboard space, added "We want our park to be decent." His mother Sarah added " – and safe." Nick Bailey of Southway pointed out that such a park would draw skateboarders and rollerbladers away from other sites (such as the Roosevelt Center area where concerns for pedestrians and traffic safety have shone the spotlight on 'boarders and 'bladers).

Paul Sabol praised the "individual sport, individual act of creation" and supported the city encouraging this "art form." Richard Ransom said he applauded Greenbelt "coming into the 21st century . . . this park will be a gem for Greenbelt."

Skateboarder Nathan Cowan of Lakeside Drive spoke for the safety of a skatepark, as did his mother, Eva Garin. Lakeside neighbors John Mason and son Joel Mason-Gaines spoke for the park. Rachel Quinton of Parkway, member of the Youth Advisory Committee, summed up the sentiments of skateboarding friends who "want to have fun and not be bored and hang in the Center."

Judy Cocchiaro and Charles Wells spoke against taking the tennis courts and putting anything else in the center of Greenbelt. Marc Manheimer countered that "this city is always thinking of ways to improve the lives of its citizens" and saw the skate park as a positive addition.

Boards and Council

The advisory groups met after the forum to work out revised reports which were submitted to the city council. At its Monday, December 16 meeting, council accepted their reports and asked city staff to research means of evaluating noise levels and to restudy possible sites before council considers the skate park again at its January 27 meeting.



The Kid's Cooking Class takes a break from the kitchen for a tour of the Greenbelt Co-op supermarket. Pictured (left to right): Danielle Sherman, Conner Jordan, Erin Bistany, Carmen from the Co-op and Danielle McWhirter.

Kids Are Cookin'

The Recreation Department's Kids' Cooking Class meets every other Friday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Community Center. A new session will begin in January.

Taught by Greenbelter Karen Yoho, the class participants enjoy crafts and games as well as a cooking project.

For more information, call 301-397-2208.



The Recreation Department's Kid's Cooking Class enjoys its latest project, making breakfast in their pajamas. Front row (left to right) Danielle McWhirter, Kenneth Turman, Conner Jordan. Back row (left to right): Danielle Sherman, Debbie Fishbeck. Not pictured: Erin Bistany, Rachel Dwivedi.



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A Musical and Magical New Year's Eve Planned

by Patti Brothers

Some familiar faces will be among the entertainers who will be sharing their varied talents with the folks ringing in the new year at the 2003 Greenbelt New Year celebration, which will start with a fireworks display on Braden Field.

The Community Center will host the return of the Trinidad and Tobago Steel Band. Since 1961 the band has been exposing local audiences to the music of the steel drum. The band has performed for past presidents of the United States and has shared the stage with many Hollywood entertainers at various national and local events. It has also conducted workshops at various festivals and for numerous school systems.

DC Motors will follow the Trinidad and Tobago Steel Band in the gym and will ring in the new year at midnight. DC Motors is a Washington-based band whose members have been performing together for over 20 years. The band plays an unusually wide variety of styles with lots of energy and nonstop fun for all ages, as those who attended the New Year's Eve celebration two years ago will attest.

Puppet Show

The Blue Sky Puppets have been touring the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area for many years with a variety of wonderful puppet shows. Each performance is a trip into the fantasy world of fairy tales that will be enjoyed not only by children but by their parents and grandparents as well.

John Hill will be performing in the cabaret all evening long. He too has performed at past New Year's Eve celebrations and has always impressed audiences with his beautiful voice and great talent on the acoustic guitar. He comes from Havre de Grace and has performed all over Maryland and Delaware in clubs and Legion halls and at community festivals and private parties. Magic Mike will be performing two shows of "How did he do that?" illusions. He will keep the audience mesmerized with feats of magic. When he's not performing those, he will be creating balloon sculptures for the kids.

Storytellers

These performers will just be part of the 2003 Greenbelt New Year Celebration. In addition, the Goddard Storytellers will be telling wonderful, let-your-imagination-take-you-away tales for people of all ages. They will have two shows: one toward the early part of the evening and the other toward the latter part of the

evening. There will be Scottish country dancing (lessons will be given) in the dance studio for partygoers who want to kick up their heels. Get a new "do" (i.e., hairdo) in the Rehearsal Room. There will be arts and crafts activities for kids of all ages all night long. And keep an eye out for McGruff, who'll be roaming the halls.

Other Activities

The Youth Center will be the center of lots of activities (a big Twister game, an obstacle course, and karaoke) for young people of all ages. There will also be kids bingo for lots of fun and prizes.

The Arts Center will have one show of the play "True Magic," and "Something Completely Different" will be performing afterwards. The Old Greenbelt Theatre will have two shows of animated short movies.

And there will be lots of food: delicious desserts by Chef Lou and fill-your-tummy treats by the Greenbelt Swim Team in the Community Center and delicious pizza at the Youth Center.

Reduced rate tickets (as well as collector T-shirts) can be purchased at the Community Center. Tickets at the door are slightly higher. Children under five are free. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

Learning For Life

The best of college is available for seniors at University of Maryland Legacy College for Lifelong Learning at College Park. There are great new friends, stimulating discussions, fascinating teachers, retirement planning, free parking, nominal cost, educational grants and NO exams.

Geared toward seniors, Legacy College was originally developed as Senior University. Registration begins January 2 for the two six week terms during the winter/spring semester. The cost of the classes includes a membership in the University of Maryland Alumni Association. The college is affiliated with Elderhostel. For a catalogue and membership application call 301-403-4467 or e-mail ssimson@deans.umd.edu.

Mayor Graduates Governance Course

Judith Davis, mayor of Greenbelt, graduated November 17 from the Academy for Excellence in Local Governance, a program of the University of Maryland's Institute for Governmental Service. The program is offered in cooperation with the Local Government Insurance Trust, the Maryland Association of Counties and the Maryland Municipal League.

Davis attended a minimum of 12 separate courses over two years to fulfill the requirements of the certificate program.

The graduation ceremony was held in the Memorial Chapel at the University of Maryland, College Park, with a reception afterward.



Mayor Davis celebrates her graduation.

By providing enhanced educational opportunities, the academy trains informed, responsible local officials to give Maryland jurisdictions the leadership needed in the 21st century. Specific objectives are to increase understanding of local government and how it functions, promote high ethical standards in public service, provide an information base for more informed policymaking, develop the capacity of local officials to govern effectively and recognize local officials for their educational efforts.

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GED Registration

Registration for the winter 10-week GED class presented by Greenbelt CARES will be held on Tuesday, January 7 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. only. The first class of instruction will be held on Thursday, January 9 and the last on Thursday, March 13.

GED I is held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. GED I is for students who need review of basic math (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, percentages and word problems) and English grammar skills.

GED II is held from 1 to 3 p.m. and is for students who have successfully completed GED I and/or are ready to learn algebra and geometry, English literature and writing skills and prepare to take the GED test.

GED is held every Tuesday and Thursday for 10 weeks in the Municipal Building Conference Room, 25 Crescent Road.

Students are required to show proof of residency (i.e., current lease, phone or electric bill, driver's license or Motor Vehicle ID card).

There is no charge for Greenbelt residents in either course. Non-Greenbelt residents are required to pay a \$150 registration fee. All students are required to purchase a copy of the GED textbook and calculator from Greenbelt CARES.

Students do not have to be 16 years of age in order to take

the GED course. Students are eligible to take a GED pre-test given at Greenbelt CARES at no cost. The actual GED test is given by the State of Maryland, not Greenbelt CARES. However, students who are ready to take the test can obtain the application forms from Greenbelt CARES.

Questions and enrollment information regarding either GED I or GED II should be directed to Judy Hering, course instructor, at Greenbelt CARES at 301-345-6660, ext. 144, or e-mail: jhering@ci.greenbelt.md.us.

Kochell Offers Adult Cartooning Course

George Kochell, who instructs in the GAVA/GATE program in video animation at the Greenbelt Community Center and has also taught at Greenbelt Elementary School, will be offering an adult course in cartooning on Wednesday evenings in the winter term at the Montpelier Cultural Arts Center. The program is sponsored by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. For information call 301-953-1993.

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NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS

GUTTER CLEANING SCHEDULE

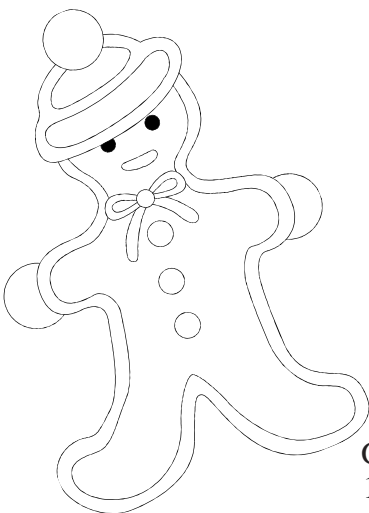
The 2002 GHI Fall Gutter Cleaning schedule for the week of December 23rd is as follows (weather permitting):

- 2 court Eastway
- 1 through 5 courts Gardenway
- 17 through 30 courts Ridge Road

Scheduled updates for this program will be published weekly in the Greenbelt News Review. The contact supervisor for the program is Paul Hill. He can be reached on 301-474-4161 ext. 122.



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KID'S BINGO

Saturday, December 21
4 p.m. – Doors open at 2:30 p.m.

\$5 per child 5-13 years old

Adult must accompany child
All children will receive a toy



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301-345-7000

FREE FOOD & DRINK
Surprise Visitor

Montpelier Schedule

Upcoming exhibits at Montpelier Cultural Arts Center are:

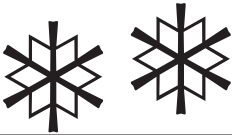
December 4 to 29 – Resident Artists Gallery, sculpture by Melissa Burley and paintings by Jennifer Berringer.

December 5 to 29 – Main Gallery, Patuxent Art League juried exhibition open to all Maryland artists.

The museum is located at 12826 Laurel-Bowie Road, Laurel. Take Route 197 north toward Laurel to Montpelier Shopping Center – Muirkirk Road. Turn left; the Art Center Drive is on the right. For more information, call 301-953-1993; TTY 301-490-2329

Holiday Open House

Enjoy the holidays with a free visit to the Historic Seabrook Schoolhouse, 6116 Seabrook Road. The 1896 one-room schoolhouse will host an open house on Saturday, December 21 from noon to 4 p.m. View the exhibit on early 20th century education and pictures of former Seabrook School classes. Light refreshments will be served.



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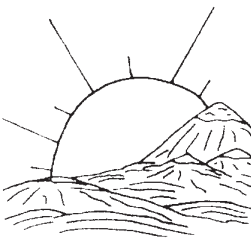
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End Unit With Large Corner Lot
Great townhome that has been completely renovated. Opened stairway & kitchen. Fenced yard with large shed. Nice! \$83,900 SOLD

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Remodeled throughout with opened kitchen, dishwasher, carpet, large fenced yard, private stairway, big attic & modern bath. \$48,900 SOLD

Greens of Warther
2-story condominium with private yard and rear entrance. New HVAC system, remodeled kit., new carpet, fireplace & more. \$169,900 SOLD

Charlestown Village
2-Story home with lots of upgrades and improvements. Newer windows & sliding door. 3 brs., 1 full- and 2 half-baths. \$115,000 SOLD


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3 Bedroom Townhome
This home has a remodeled kitchen with breakfast bar and dishwasher. Large yard with shed that backs to woods. \$79,900 SOLD

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Woodland Way - Single Family Home
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HOLIDAY GREETINGS

Each year at this time we come together with family and friends to celebrate the holidays. As 2002 draws to a close, the City Council, City employees, and members of Council's Advisory Boards and Committees wish all citizens asafe and joyful holiday and a prosperous New Year.

City Council, Advisory Boards & Committees, & Employees of the City of Greenbelt

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Judith F. Davis, Mayor
Rodney M. Roberts, Mayor Pro Tem
Alan Turnbull
Edward V. J. Putens
Thomas X. White

Advisory Boards & Committees

Advisory Committee on Education

Leta Mach, Chair
Mary Alice Carroll
Brenda Cooley
Eva Griffin
Jim Inzeo
Alla S. Lake
Kathy Lewis
Jacqueline B. Magness
Jeffrey T. Morisette

Advisory Committee on Trees

Charles H. Jackman, Co-Chair
Jennifer Sager, Co-Chair
Robert Trumbule

Advisory Planning Board

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Maileen Halaghay
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Katie Scott-Childress, Curator

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Greenbelt CARES

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